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gold basis. In some cases an out-and-out gold standard was established; in the others a gold-exchange standard was the end sought. While Professor Kemmerer gives a lucid historical account of the reforms in each of the countries studied, his book represents much more than mere historical description. It constitutes a searching inquiry into monetary principles in the light of the recorded historical experience. The determination of money value in practice, the effect of deliberate changes in this value on wages, on the relations between debtors and creditors, on foreign trade, etc., are most interestingly set forth, and conclusions are abundantly buttressed by statistical diagrams and tables. In the realm of principle, Professor Kemmerer's studies establish beyond dispute the inadequacy of the crude metallist or bullionist theory of money value. While bullion value naturally supplies a lower limit to money value, and while it undoubtedly affects the acceptability of and hence the demand for money, Professor Kemmerer's researches show clearly that money itself is a distinct entity whose value is independently determined.

Professor Kemmerer was admirably equipped for pursuing the studies so happily brought to fruition in the book under review. His experience in the field of scholarship was broadened by unique practical opportunities in the domain of administration. While the subject matter of his volume is not such that lends itself to literary embellishment, Professor Kemmerer writes with ease and clearness. To each of the countries studied a separate "Part" is allotted, yet unity of treatment is achieved through emphasis in each instance on the underlying monetary principles. The book is a noteworthy contribution to monetary literature.

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LYON, HASTINGS. *Corporation Finance*. Pp. vii, 316. Price, \$2.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1916.

Some few years ago Mr. Lyon published a book entitled *Capitalization*. The present volume, *Corporation Finance*, is also labeled *Part II* with a subtitle, *Distributing Securities, Reorganization*. From these facts the reviewer gathers that the two volumes, *Capitalization* and *Corporation Finance—Part II*, are to be regarded as a complete treatment of the subject of corporation finance.

The author devotes four chapters of the volume under consideration to what may be termed the raising of funds and the mechanism therefor, and includes an interesting discussion of syndicates and a brief chapter dealing with listing on the Exchange. The fifth chapter, about twenty pages in length, carries the title Corporate Income, and is followed by another and even briefer chapter entitled Special Nature of the Income of a Holding Corporation. Mr. Lyon then devotes some ten pages to a discussion of the origin of the complexity of liens, and his final and most lengthy chapter is given over to the subject of reorganization.

The principal criticism which can be made of this new work of Mr. Lyon is that it deals too much with what may be termed the technical mechanism of corporation finance and that the author is altogether too little concerned with

the study of financial policies and the reasons for their adoption. For example, although Mr. Lyon has written several hundred pages in his two volumes, he has given over an exceedingly small percentage of space to the matter of corporate income and its management. Nowhere in either of the two volumes is there to be found any extended consideration of such subjects as dividends and dividend policies, surplus and its management and distribution. Another important topic which seems to have been almost utterly neglected is that of depreciation. Many minor subjects, such as the matter of accumulated dividends, privileged subscriptions, etc., also appear to have been given comparatively little attention.

The volume under review contains an interesting and illuminating treatment of many phases of corporate finance some of which are not to be found in any other volume dealing with this subject which has as yet appeared. The chapters on Reorganization and on Syndicates are especially comprehensive and valuable.

The reviewer notes with regret the statement of Mr. Lyon in his preface to the effect that he has changed his mind about the desirability of using existing securities and corporations to illustrate various principles. Always a great believer in the source method wherever practicable in a book designed for text purposes, the reviewer is rather inclined to believe that Mr. Lyon has made a mistake in not continuing in this second volume the method which he pursued in *Capitalization*. Again, in justice to Mr. Lyon, it ought to be said that he is perhaps in the right in altering his method and the reviewer in the wrong in criticising such alteration. Certainly Mr. Lyon has had ample opportunity in using *Capitalization* as a textbook to determine the value of the illustrative material which it contained. His experience, therefore, is probably the contrary of that of the reviewer and his view in consequence entitled to equal if not greater weight.

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PAINE, WILLIS S. *Paine's Analysis of the Federal Reserve Act and Cognate Statutes*. Pp. xiv, 416. Price, \$5.00. New York: The Bankers' Publishing Company, 1917.

A collection of current information, accurately and skilfully devised, is of the same importance as original research in its relation to the commercial and educational fields. This, apparently, is the theory underlying the publication of the foregoing volume.

The practical demonstration of this theory, as measured by the book itself, suffers from a lack of cohesion. Current news is more easily comprehended and constitutes a more valuable reference source when it is classified according to subject matter. If a chronological development of events, rulings, and regulations is desirable, this development can be executed quite as readily under topical heads. It is an unfortunate incongruity that an analysis of the Federal Reserve Act should have the semblance of a hasty compendium of newspaper clippings and extracts from the *Federal Reserve Bulletins*.